

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 088857
ORIGIN IO-04

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /005 R

66011
DRAFTED BY IO/HDC:JJBUCZACKI:DD
APPROVED BY IO/HDC:RANDREW
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R 201848Z APR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
INFO USMISSION GENEVA 8287

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FOLLOWING REPEAT BANGKOK 8141 ACTION SECSTATE
INFO DEA HQS VIENTIANE 15 APR 77

QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BANGKOK 8141

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SNAR, TH
SUBJECT: DRUG TRAFFICKER SUMMARILY EXECUTED

REF: (A) BANGKOK 6659; (B) BANGKOK 6554

1. DRUG TRAFFICKER CH'EN TING-YEN (AKA THAWON UDOMLUDET, THAWON SAE KOW, AH KAN, AND ENG CHU) WAS SUMMARILY EXECUTED AT 6:32 AM ON APRIL 15. PRIME MINISTER THANIN KRAIWICHIAN ORDERED THE EXECUTION, USING FOR THE FIRST TIME HIS POWERS UNDER ARTICLE 21 OF THE INTERIM CONSTITUTION TO PUNISH SUMMARILY PERSONS FOUND TO HAVE COMMITTED SERIOUS OFFENSES THREATENING THE COUNTRY'S STABILITY AND LAW AND ORDER. HE HAD EARLIER STATED PUBLICLY THAT HE WOULD USE ARTICLE 21 TO DEAL WITH LARGE SCALE DRUG
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TRAFFICKERS, KILLER-RAPISTS AND ARSONISTS. THANIN ORDERED THE EXECUTION AFTER RECEIVING THE APPROVAL OF THE CABINET AS WELL AS THE PRIME MINISTER'S ADVISORY COUNCIL, AS REQUIRED BY THE CONSTITUTION.

2. CH'EN ARREST ON MARCH 25 WAS REPORTED IN REFTEL ACCORDING TO DEA, CH'EN IS ONE OF THE TEN LARGEST DRUG

TRAFFICKERS IN ASIA. SEE REF B FOR DETAILS.

3. COMMENT: THE PRIME MINISTER'S DECISION TO USE HIS SUMMARY POWERS UNDER ARTICLE 21 TO ORDER THE EXECUTION OF A DRUG TRAFFICKER STRONGLY UNDERLINES HIS DETERMINATION TO PRESS THAILAND'S FIGHT AGAINST NARCOTICS AND TO DEAL HARSHLY WITH MAJOR DRUG TRAFFICKERS. THE EFFECT OF HIS ACTION WAS DRAMATICALLY HEIGHTENED BY THE TIMING OF THE EXECUTION--RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE 1977 US EAST ASIAN NARCOTIC CONFERENCE.
WHITEHOUSE.
UNQUOTE VANCE.

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DRUG TRAFFIC, EXECUTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE088857
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JJBUCZACKI:DD
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770138-0677
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770437/aaaabfru.tel
Line Count: 74
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c20ab1a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 BANGKOK 6659, 77 BANGKOK 6554
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Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2746222
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DRUG TRAFFICKER SUMMARILY EXECUTED
TAGS: SNAR, PORS, TH, (CH'EN TING-YEN), (THAWON UDOMLUDET), (THAWON SAE KOW), (AH KAN), (ENG CHU)
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